

Behavior

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Impressionable,
learns quickly and
easily, best time
to train and begin
lifelong habits.

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Sexually mature;
typical head-
strong teenager;
rebellious.

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Emotionally/
socially mature,
behaviorally pre-
dictable, may try
to dominate.

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Reduced sensory
input may result
in confusion or
irritability, canine
cognitive dys-
function.

Maricopa County Animal Care & Control

Maricopa County
Animal Care & Control (AC&C)
is “ dedicated to promoting and
protecting the health, safety, and
welfare of pets and people in
Maricopa County”

AC&C is a full service
animal welfare organization
with animal care centers, adoptions,
field services, licensing and
education programs.

West Valley Animal Care Center and mailing address:

(602) 506-PETS

pets.maricopa.gov

**2323 S. 35th Avenue
(MAIN)**

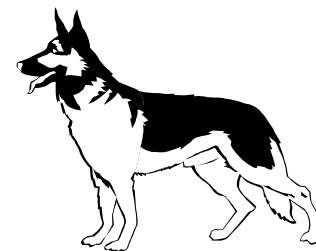
**2630 W. 8th St.
(MESA)**

**5231 N. 35th Ave
(PHOENIX)**



Maricopa County
Animal Care & Control

Developmental Stages of a Dog's Life



		Equipment	Exercise			Grooming	Health Care			Diet	Training
6 Wks - 6 mos	Juvenile	Kennel crate, buckle collar, leash, odor neutralizer, anti-chew, toys, I.D. tag, microchip, dog license.	Play games that encourage cooperation; hide & seek, find it, round robin recalls.	6 Wks - 6 mos	Juvenile	Daily brushing, bi-weekly nail clipping, weekly teeth cleaning, bathe as needed.	Puppy vaccination series, rabies vaccination, stool check, deworming, early age spay/neuter.	6 Wks - 6 mos	Juvenile	Premium quality dry kibble puppy formula 2-3x/day, treats for training.	Supervision and consistent feedback regarding house manners, basic commands; handling exercises; socialization..
6 mos - 1 8 mos	Adolescent	Check collar size, check leash for wear; head halter for training if necessary, new toys for chewing/ & grinding, dog bed.	Problem prevention program; 2 hrs. aerobic exercise daily; tug of war games only if dog follows rules.	6 mos - 1 8 mos	Adolescent	Maintain grooming program, flea/tick control program, bathe as needed.	Annual vaccinations, stool check, heartworm test, traditional spay/neuter heartworm preventative.	6 mos - 1 8 mos	Adolescent	6-12 months; puppy formula 2x/day, 12-18 months; adult formula 1-2x/day. Treats for training.	Training program emphasizing impulse control and leadership, agility and/or tracking skills.
1 8 mos - 7 yrs	Adult	Check equipment for wear; repair or replace bedding, toys, collar, & leash, update license yearly	Maintain exercise program; can include jogging and cycling activities, agility classes.	1 8 mos - 7 yrs	Adult	Maintain programs, note any skin growths or changes in pigment, bathe as needed.	Annual check-up, vaccinations every 1-3 years, check for periodontal disease, heartworm test and monthly preventative.	1 8 mos - 7 yrs	Adult	Watch for obesity; switch food to less active formula if necessary, treats for training.	Maintain training; guarding breeds may need additional supervision and training to prevent problem behaviors.
7 yrs plus	Geriatric	Orthopedic dog bedding, body harness if needed, odor neutralizer for incontinence.	Light exercise program to maintain weight; avoid overexertion on hot or cold days.	7 yrs plus	Geriatric	Massage therapy, maintain grooming, report to vet any growths/lumps, pigment changes.	Report any sudden changes in diet, activity or stool to vet; heartworm test and monthly preventative.	7 yrs plus	Geriatric	Senior formula diet; vet prescribed diet for kidney and other problems, treats for training.	Maintain training according to dog's ability (loss of vision, hearing, stiffness/pain), more frequent opportunities to soil outdoors.